VZCZCXRO2412 PP RUEHBZ RUEHDU RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN DE RUEHLS #1112 3220554 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 170554Z NOV 08 FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6473 INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 0003 RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 0067 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0040 RUEHAE/AMEMBASSY ASMARA 0093 RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0626 RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 3753 RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 0003 RUEHLGB/AMEMBASSY KIGALI 0386 RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0016 RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0746

UNCLAS LUSAKA 001112

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PASS USTR FOR BIU JACKSON

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>PGOV KDEM</u> <u>ZA</u>

SUBJECT: COMESA POSTPONES DECEMBER SUMMIT

- 11. COMESA Assistant Secretary General for Programmes Stephen Karangizi confirmed November 14 that the December summit planned for Victoria Falls had been postponed, due to the lack of progress forming a Zimbabwean national unity government per the September agreement between ZANU-PF and MDC. Karangizi said the future date and venue of the summit had yet to be negotiated among the member states, but a lower level official noted the organization was aiming to re-schedule in mid-2009.
- 12. Karangizi explained that the Intergovernmental Committee (PermSec level) meeting would be held in Lusaka December 1-3, with the Council of Ministers meeting to follow December 4-5, also in Lusaka. Only the heads of state/government summit had been postponed completely.
- ¶3. Minimize considered.

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